

# **The Governance Model**

## **The District School Board of Collier County**

### **Governance Team**

The School Board and the Superintendent shall be understood to represent the governance team in accordance with statutory K-20 governance model.

### **Introduction: Norms (Norms)**

- Agree to abide by meeting guidelines and structure
- Remain on topic
- Act in the best interest of the school District
- Participate and show respect
- Listen, be open, and honest
- Agree to disagree respectfully
- Be prepared for meetings
- Start on time

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

#### **The School Board** (Policy 1010, F.S.1001.41 -43, Bylaw 0131)

Under Florida law, the District School Board ("the Board") for each school District is called to represent the entire District. Each member of the Board serves as the representative of the entire District rather than the representative of the member's particular residence area. In this regard, it is the role of the Board to determine policies and programs necessary for the District's efficient operation after receiving, reviewing, and considering recommendations submitted to it by the Superintendent.

#### **The Superintendent** (AdvancED 2.3, F.S. 1001.49, F.S. 1001.51)

Under Florida law and District policy, the Superintendent is the Chief Executive Officer of the District who exercises the day-to-day authority over District operations. The Superintendent advises and counsels the Board on educational and operational matters. This includes recommending policies and plans for the effective operation of schools, classes, transportation, and educational and instructional opportunities for District students. The Superintendent directs and oversees the work of the District and recommends the hiring, suspension, and termination of District employees. He or she works to prepare the annual budget for Board review and approval for the effective fiscal management of the District.

### **Cooperative Governance**

The system operates under governance and leadership that promote and support student performance and system effectiveness. (AdvancED 2)

- The governing body shall operate responsibly and function effectively. (AdvancED 2.2)
- The governing body shall ensure that the leadership at all levels has the autonomy to meet goals for achievement and instruction and to manage day-to-day operations effectively and efficiently. (AdvancED 2.3)
- The Board and the Superintendent shall work collaboratively to mutually advise and counsel one another in the best interests of District students, employees and the community. (F.S. 1001.)
- The Board will make decisions as a whole group and respect individual views and opinions during review and decisions on Board matters before it. Once a decision is made all Board members will accept the decision. Board members agree and understand that they have no

- individual authority. One's authority derives from the Board as a whole. (Policy 0123, Section D)
- The Board shall recognize its obligation to appropriately evaluate the Superintendent's recommendations and review the data it receives in consultation with the Superintendent. (Policy 1010)
  - Both the Board and the Superintendent shall recognize the importance of sharing information, open communication, and respecting and supporting one another to make decisions beneficial to the District. (Policy 0123, Section O)

While the duties and responsibilities mentioned above are not all inclusive, they involve cooperative interaction between the Board and the Superintendent to act in the best interests of the District.

#### **Policies Review Process** (AdvancED 2.1)

The governing body establishes policies and supports practices for the administration of the school system. The Board and Superintendent shall develop a process for reviewing and updating policies. A systematic review of policies is essential to effective governance.

#### **District Strategic Plan Review** (AdvancED 1, Policy 2100, 2105)

The District Strategic Plan serves as a blueprint that outlines District priorities. As such, it functions as a guide for appropriate educational and administrative decision-making for the long-term benefits of the District students, employees, and the community. The Superintendent recommends the District Strategic Plan to the Board for its approval.

#### **School Board Self-Evaluation** (AdvancED 2.2, Policy 0120 (G) (M))

At the end of each school year, the School Board shall conduct a self-evaluation. Individual Board members complete a mutually agreed upon self-evaluation and results are compiled and shared with the Board and the community. The result of the Board self-evaluation may determine professional learning curriculum and any changes in Board operations.

#### **Superintendent Evaluation** (Policy 1010)

The School Board shall conduct an annual evaluation of the Superintendent's performance. The Board and Superintendent shall agree upon the evaluation criteria.

#### **School Board Professional Learning** (AdvancED 2.1, 2.2, Bylaw 0123 (K))

This is part of the continuous improvement process that contributes to effective governance. Governing body members are required to participate in a systematic, formal professional learning process regarding the roles and the responsibilities of the governing body and its individual members, including Ethics training.

The results from the School Board's self-evaluation will guide the selection of topics for professional learning. The professional learning curriculum also includes conflict resolution, decision-making, supervision and evaluation, and fiscal responsibility.

#### **Communication Plan for the Governance Model** (AdvancED 2.5)

This document shall serve as a means for communication to provide the community with a clear understanding of the Governance Model and shall be posted on the District webpage.

*This Governance Model was approved at the December 8, 2015, Regular Board Meeting.*